## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12

OMB-01 RSR-01 /106 W

----- 106651

R 041600 Z APR 73 FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4551 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON AMCONSUL BELFAST

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E. O. 11652 N/ A TAGS: PINS/ EI

SUBJECT: DUBLIN INTEREST IN PROTESTANT EXTREMISTS

- 1. HARD- LIND PROTESTANT LEADERS CONTINUE MAKE FREQUENT APPEARANCES ON RTE ( IRISH RADIO/ TV NETWORK).

  INDIVIDUALLY, MOST OF THEIR APPEARANCES DO NOT PROVIDE MUCH MATERIAL FOR EMBASSY REPORTING, BUT CUMULATIVE IMPACT HERE MEANINGFUL. IAN PAISLEY MAY HAVE STARTED TREND IN NOVEMBER 1971 ( DUBLIN 1337), WHEN, IN RTE INTERVIEW, HE SEEMED TO BE RETHINKING HIS POSITION ON NORTH/ SOUTH RELATIONSHIP. PAISLEY CONTINUES FREQUENT APPEARANCES ON RTE AND IS GOOD PERFORMER. JOHN TAYLOR HAS ALSO MADE ARTICULATE APPEARANCES.

  WILLIAM CRAIG AND TOMMY HERRON HAVE BEEN SEEN SEVERAL TIMES.
- 2. BRIAN FAULKNER WAS APPEARING ON RTE EVEN BEFORE THE ABOVE HARD- LINERS, BUT HIS APPROACH WAS-- AND IS-DIFFERENT. HE ALWAYS SEEMS TO BE TALKING TO HIS OWN UNIONIST AUDIENCE AND SHOWING THAT HE CAN SCORE POINTS AGAINST THE REPUBLICANS. OTHERS NOTED ABOVE ARE ACTUALLY TRYING TO COMMUNICATE WITH SOUTHERN AUDIENCE, THOUGH MESSAGE IS FREQUENTLY HARD TO SELL. THIS HAS CONTRIBUTED TO SITUATION IN WHICH CATHOLIC COMMUNITY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HAS MORE SYMPATHY FOR OPPOSING EXTREMISTS THAN FOR LEADER -- FAULKNER-- WHO IS SOMEWHERE NEAR CENTER OF OPPOSING CAMP. FAULKNER WOULD PROBABLY LEAD ANY UNPOPULARITY POLL HERE.

- 3. BOTH WINGS OF IRA GO OUT OF THEIR WAY THESE DAYS TO APPEAL TO LOYALIST EXTREMES, USUALLY REFERRED TO AS "WORKING CLASSES". ACCORDING TO "IRISH PRESS" APRIL 4, PROVOS HAVE OBJECTED STRONGLY TO THE DEATH SENTENCE GIVEN UDA MEMBER BROWNE, WHO MURDERED POLICEMAN. IRA SAYS BRITISH GOVT HAS NO RIGHT TO HANG ANY IRISHMAN, "AND THE MAN WHO HANGS BROWNE DOES SO AT HIS OWN RISK." NEWSPAPERS ARE ALSO OUT OF SYMPATHY WITH DEATH SENTENCE FOR BROWNE, AND ALL CARRY PROMINENT PICTURES OF HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN. REPORTERS ASSUME THAT SENTENCE WILL BE COMMUTED.
- 4. COMMENT: DUBLIN INTEREST IN PROTESTANT EXTREMISTS IS NOT SURPRISING. REPUBLICANS LIKE TO THINK OF NORTHERN HARD- LINERS AS FELLOW IRISHMEN WHO HAVE FALLEN FROM GRACE BUT WHO ARE IRISH EVEN IN THEIR METHODS OF REJECTING IRISH ETHOS. SEEMS A LITTLE MORE SURPRISING TO FIND MEN LIKE PAISLEY, CRAIG, TAYLOR, AND HERRON SO INTERESTED IN DUBLIN TV. WHATEVER THEIR MOTIVATIONS, THIS DEVELOPMENT DOES ADD TO FLOW OF IDEAS BETWEEN IRISH COMMUNITIES. IT ALSO SEEMS TO DEMONSTRATE THAT SOME LEADERS IN BOTH COMMUNITIES RECOGNIZE NEED OF DEVELOPING NEW RELATIONSHIP. MOORE

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